Application No.: 09/714,903 Docket No.: INSTAK 3.0-001

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-26 (Canceled).

27. (Currently Amended) A method for constructing a business rules based application comprising:

providing a set of wizards selectable by a user;

selecting at least one wizard from the set of wizards to specify a number of actions to be performed by the business rules based application;

providing a set of verbs selectable by the user;

selecting at least one verb from the set of verbs to define the number of actions to be performed by the business rules based application; and

<u>each of the actions</u> the number of actions—in a user-specified hierarchical order to set the order of execution of the <u>number</u> of actions in the application.

- 28. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 27, wherein only certain actions operate on data during execution time.
- 29. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 27, further comprising:

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specifying actions to construct the business rules based application and actions to operate on data during execution of the business rules based application.

- 30. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 27, wherein the actions include conditional actions.
- 31. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 27, further comprising:

stepping through the number of actions to debug the business rules based application.

Claims 32-41 (Canceled)

42. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium comprising instructions, which when executed by a processor, performs a method for constructing a business rules based application comprising:

providing a set of wizards selectable by a user;

selecting at least one wizard from the set of wizards to specify a number of actions to be performed by the business rules based application;

providing a set of verbs selectable by the user;

selecting at least one verb from the set of verbs to define the number of actions to be performed by the business rules based application; and

arranging the number of actions assigning a child status or next status to each of the actions in a user-specified hierarchical order to set the order of execution of the number of actions in the application.

- 43. (Previously Presented) The medium according to claim 42, wherein only certain actions operate on data during execution time.
- 44. (Previously Presented) The medium according to claim 42, further comprising:

specifying actions to construct the business rules based application and actions to operate on data during execution of the business rules based application.

- 45. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 42, wherein the actions include conditional actions.
- 46. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 42, further comprising:

stepping through the number of actions to debug the business rules based application.

Claims 47-56 (Canceled)

57. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for constructing a business rules based application comprising a processor programmed to:

provide a set of wizards selectable by a user;

select at least one wizard from the set of wizards to specify a number of actions to be performed by the business rules based application;

provide a set of verbs selectable by the user;

select at least one verb from the set of verbs to define the number of actions to be performed by the business rules based application; and

arrange the number of assign a child status or next status to each of the actions actions in a user-specified hierarchical order to set the order of execution of the number of actions in the application.

- 58. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 57, wherein only certain actions operate on data during execution time.
- 59. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 57, wherein the processor is further programmed to:

specify actions to construct the business rules based application and actions to operate on data during execution of the business rules based application.

- 60. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 57, wherein the actions include conditional actions.
- 61. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 57, wherein the processor is further programmed to:

step through the number of actions to debug the business rules based application.

- 62. (New) The method according to claim 27, wherein the assigning comprises modifying the child status or next status selected during construction of the business rules based application.
- 63. (New) The computer readable medium according to claim 42, wherein the assigning instruction comprises modifying the child status or next status selected during construction of the business rules based application.
- 64. (New) The apparatus according to claim 57, wherein the processor is further programmed to modify the child status or next status selected during construction of the business rules based application.